

SOME OF OUR FADS

How Things Are Looking at Narragansett Pier

ON THE WOMEN OF FASHION

The Saturday Night Hop and the Gowns One Sees There—The Fantastic Girl in White and Gold.

Narragansett is looking very bright and gay this season. The roads have all been fixed up so that driving is good; and since the Village Improvement society has got in its work, and built that thousand feet of walk on the ocean front, it has grown very popular for evening strolls. On Saturday afternoon it was a pretty sight to watch the gay promenaders. There was such a profusion of color and such an endless variety of combination that I could not grow weary.

One girl was starting in a bright red of some gauzy material, polka dotted with black, and a big red gauze hat. Another looked very pretty in a long, loose gray coat that covered her whole dress, although I caught a glimpse of it as she walked, and saw that it was white silk. She wore a low white hat, white chambray gloves and stockings and low shoes of the same spotless shade. Behind her came a girl in pongee silk, made up with tiny ruffles of bright



FOR EVENING WEAR.

gown. Then there was a girl in fawn of quite heavy wool, and with it she wore a sailor collar and turned-back cuffs of sheer muslin embroidered in blue. The next girl I noticed had a fawn skirt also, and a lovely silk waist of a faint, beautiful blue-green shade.

A girl with very pink cheeks wore deep old rose profusely trimmed with rich creamy lace at the bottom of the skirt, in long pannes on the hips, in a full yoke at the throat and in big puffs on the sleeves.

A pale lavender was very pretty hanging in coat style over a tightly-gathered bodice of black tulle. The sleeves had overpuffs of black also, caught down with small gold bands. A very queer gown seemed to be made of all small flounces, pinked in little points. The tight-fitting bodice had almost been cut away, except under the arms and a little at the front near the waist, and the space left had been filled in with these little flounces, the top one of



THE GIRL WITH THE SUNSHINE GOWN.

which was tulle on a high collar; each one grew narrower nearing the waist, and then a wide velvet belt came up over. The sleeves were made of four of these flounces, each one hanging loose, the loosest over a velvet cuff. The same flounce arrangement was repeated on the hips.

A small, slender girl looked pretty in a white raincoat, all ruffles and fur-bowels, and so did another in silver-colored chiffon, with dark blue silk sleeve puffs and dark blue belt and collar.

A clear brunette trailed past, clad in an old rose fustian of princess cut, skillfully combined with moss-green velvet and Venetian lace. The velvet was inserted all the way down the back, falling in fine folds below the waist line. A long, pointed yoke of lace lay over it, and over this again a smaller



A DEBUTANTE'S STYLE.

yoke of velvet. The sleeves were perfectly plain and tight fitting, and a puff of lace of a style borrowed from the middle ages hung over. The collar was lace, also. Her costume was out of place on those shining sands, decidedly.

A pretty fowered fustian had a long lace bow falling from throat to belt. The bow had small loops and long pointed ends.

In the evening I saw more gowns. In a big rocker on a broad piazza, I looked in one of the hotel windows and watched the gay dancers. I had seen wonderful and gorgeous combinations that afternoon, but they were forgotten for the moment as I watched the pretty ones going in and out through the figures. The first girl that I picked out from the bewildered mass was the

simplest of all. I could let my eyes rest on her quietly enough, for she hadn't a bit of any coloring in her whole gowning beside creamy yellow. Her hair was particularly dark, and her skin delicately fair, at least from the distance at which I was sitting. Her gown was made very simply, with the exception, perhaps, of a very sweeping train. The gauze it was made of had fine silk threads running through it in narrow stripes. The only adornment on the skirt was a tiny ruffle at its edge, and the bodice was simply gathered top and bottom. At the bottom it was covered by a soft yellow sash, with ends that stretched almost as far as the train, and at the top it was finished by a little heading. She wore no sleeves, just shoulder puffs, and gloves to match her gown. Even the flowers in her hair and at her waist were of the same delicate shade.

Then my eye was caught by a beautiful pale green chiffon and gold passementerie dress that a tall girl with golden hair was wearing. The full plaiting at the skirt's edge was confined by a gold colored ribbon; the waist, cut in a wide V, was partly covered by an over bodice of beautiful gold passementerie, and she, too, had nothing more than a high puff on the shoulder.

A girl posed in a daring attitude in an easy chair near me, lorgnette in hand and devoted admirer bending over her, wore a shining white with funny little streaks of sunshine running all through it. It must have come from some eastern land, for it had a very foreign look about it. It was cut extremely low both back and front, and was caught up in queer little folds here and there, so that the sunshine streaks came out. I should have liked to see her dance, but she didn't rise from that chair once through the whole evening.

There were a number of black gowns, thin and soft-looking, and any quantity of white. One set had four pale blue gowns in it, all of which were very pretty.

A great many of them wore natural flowers in their hair. Fine wreaths of rosebuds, or faint blush roses, now take the place of the Greek band and ribbon bow. The low coil is adorned at the side with flower sprays. The wreaths are made on fine wire and look very pretty. Bugs and insects are still used, put on long wires, so that they move with every motion of the head.

One maiden that I watched had her hair fixed in a very sweet and artless fashion. I'm sure it was her first season, she looked so pretty and shy. She was all in white, too. Her hair was very short, reaching only to the shoulders, and had a soft natural wave in it. It was gathered together at the back of her head, and intertwined once or twice in a pretty, indefinable fashion, and then allowed to fall loosely over her shoulder. It was very charming, and all the more so that didn't know her. She'll be spoiled before long, I very much fear. —EVA A. SCHUBERT.

SMALL BED CHAMBERS.

Facts That Are Well Worth Careful Consideration.

There is reason to believe that more cases of dangerous and fatal diseases are gradually engendered annually by the habit of sleeping in small, unventilated rooms than have occurred from a cholera atmosphere during any year since it made its appearance in this country. Very many persons sleep in 8x10 rooms—that is, in rooms the length and breadth of which multiplied together, and this multiplied again by 10, for the height of the chamber, would make just 800 cubic feet, while the space for each bed, according to the English apportionment for hospitals, is 2,100 feet, but more in order "to give the air of a room the highest degree of freshness." The French hospital contract for a complete renewal of the air of a room every hour, while the English assert that double the amount, or over 4,000 feet, is required. Four thousand feet of air each hour!

And yet there are multitudes in the city of New York who sleep with closed doors and windows in rooms which do not contain a thousand cubic feet of space, and that thousand feet is lost all night, at least eight hours, except such scanty supplies as may be obtained of any fresh air that may insinuate itself through little crevices by door or window not an eighth of an inch in thickness. But when it is known that in many cases a man and wife and infant sleep habitually in thousand-foot rooms it is no marvel that multitudes perish prematurely in cities; no wonder that infant children wilt away like flowers without water, and that thousands of them die in the city of New York alone. Another fact is suggestive, that among the 80,000 persons who sleep in the lodging houses of London, expressly arranged on the improved principles of space and ventilation already referred to, it has been proved that not one single case of fever has been engendered in two years!—N. Y. Times.

Spontaneous Human Combustion. Dickens has been much criticised for his apparent acceptance of the fact of spontaneous human combustion. He this as it may, the late Sir William Hall, one of the most renowned of British physicians and surgeons, testified to a remarkable case before the committee of the house of lords on intemperance during the summer of 1866. He said: "A large, bloated man, who was suffering from difficult breathing, died at Guy's hospital. At the post-mortem on the following day the body was found to be greatly distended with what proved to be alcoholic gases. When punctures were made in the skin and a lighted match applied, the gas which escaped burned with a bluish flame, like car-buretted hydrogen. We had as many as a score of these little flames burning at one time."

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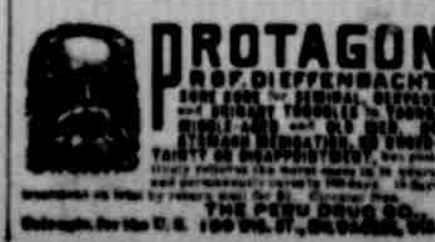


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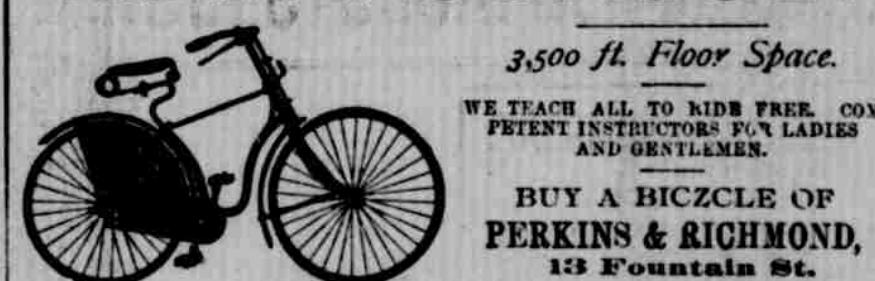
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